Hi. This is Sally Oxenhandler with your MoDOT Minute.

On July 25, Missouri finished the last nine miles of Route 61 completing more than 500 miles of four-lane highway connecting St. Paul, Minnesota to St. Louis, Missouri. Representatives from Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Illinois were on hand to cut the ribbon for this last stretch of highway, also known as the Avenue of the Saints. For more information, visit modot.org/northeast.

Missouri's efforts to make state highways safer have been honored with the prestigious "America's Transportation Award" given by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, AAA, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. MoDOT formed the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety in 2004 with the goal of reducing traffic deaths to less than 1,000 by the end of 2008. Missouri achieved the goal one year early. Traffic deaths in 2007 were the lowest in 15 years.

That's been your MoDOT Minute. Remember to visit modot.org every Tuesday for new information.